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Docket No.: 09450/0204353-US0 (PATENT)

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Patent Application of:  
Toyoaki Yokohara

Application No.: 10/596,245  
National Phase of PCT/JP2004/016980

Confirmation No.: 4152

Filed: June 6, 2006

Art Unit: Not Yet Known

For: BALL JOINT AND BEARING SEAT  
THEREOF

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

**AFFIRMATION OF PRIORITY CLAIM**

Mail Stop PCT  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:


Applicants hereby claim priority under 35 U.S.C. 119 based on the following prior foreign application filed in the following foreign country on the date indicated:

<u>Country</u>	<u>Application No.</u>	<u>Date</u>
Japan	2003-431213	December 25, 2003

A certified copy of the aforesaid Japanese Patent Application was received by the International Bureau on December 9, 2004 during the pendency of International Application No. PCT/JP2004/016980. A copy of Form PCT/IB/304 is enclosed.

Dated: June 30, 2006

Respectfully submitted,

By  **Flynn H. Barton**  
Reg. No: 55,970  
Louis J. DelJuidice  
Registration No.: 47,522  
DARBY & DARBY P.C.  
New York, New York 10150-5257  
(212) 527-7700/(212) 527-7701 (Fax)  
Attorneys/Agents For Applicants